

Application # 10/725,041
Office Action Response dated January 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated October 6, 2005

PATENT
P-6059

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0053] with the following amended paragraph:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0053] A shieldable needle device for shielding used needle cannulas. The device generally includes a hub housing and an elongated shield housing. A needle cannula having a distal puncture tip extends from the hub housing, with at least a portion of the needle cannula extending through the passageway of the shield housing. A biasing member acts on the shield housing to bias the shield housing from a first biased position adjacent the hub housing toward a second position covering the distal puncture tip of the needle cannula. An engagement mechanism extends dorsally from the hub housing and is in releasable engagement with a portion of the shield housing for releasably retaining the shield housing in the first biased position adjacent the hub housing. ~~Activation of the engagement mechanism to shield the needle can be effectively accomplished during removal of the needle device from a patient, thereby providing for a passive activation of the device during normal use.~~ Additionally, the device may include a locking mechanism for locking the shield housing in the second position.